

May 8, 2007

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION ISSUES REMINDER  
ON MAY 16-17 AQUILA RATE CASE MEETINGS**

LINCOLN – Public Service Commissioner Tim Schram of Gretna reminds residents of District 3 that the Commission will be conducting two meetings within the district May 17 on a proposed rate increase by natural gas supplier Aquila.

The meetings will be:

9 a.m. – City Council Chambers, Blair City Hall, 218 South 16<sup>th</sup> Street, Blair.

Noon – City Council Chambers, Papillion City Hall, 122 East Third Street, Papillion.

In addition, the Commission will conduct meetings on May 16 at 10 a.m. in Courtroom 3 of the Madison County Courthouse in Madison and at 2 p.m. in the York County Commissioner's Room of the York County Courthouse in York.

Commissioner Schram will host the meeting. He said the meetings will be informal and give the public an opportunity to ask questions as well as comment on the proposed rates to the Commission. The Commission also expects Aquila to participate in the meetings.

“Although the Commission wants to assess public opinion on the proposed rates,” Schram said, “the meetings are to be user friendly to make members of the public comfortable in sharing their thoughts.”

The rate proposal generated by Aquila affects all of its Nebraska customers in Rate Areas 1, 2, and 3. The meetings are open to the public. Residents from any of the Commission's give districts may attend any of the meetings, including those in Madison and York, Schram said.

Aquila operates natural gas franchises in 108 Nebraska communities and filed for a \$16.3 million increase on November 15. In addition to the four town hall meetings, a public hearing will be conducted at the Commission's Hearing Room on the Third Floor of the Atrium, 1200 N Street, Lincoln, beginning at 10 a.m. on May 30. Commissioner Frank Landis of Lincoln will preside as the hearing officer.

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